

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting
March 12, 2005

8:00 a.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 8:21 a.m., Saturday, March 12, 2005, in the Meeting Room of the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Kiln Creek, by Chairman James S. Burgett.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zarembo, Sheila S. Noll, Kenneth L. Bowman, James S. Burgett, and Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; J. Mark Carter, Assistant County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

BOARD RETREAT

NEW COMPUTER ORIENTATION

Mr. David Cannon, Network Manager, displayed for the Board members the new laptop computer setup they will be provided in a few weeks that will replace their current computers at home and will be used at Board meetings for accessing information materials. He reviewed the system and demonstrated the system's options.

Discussion followed on the protocols to be used with the laptops for the Board meetings and what County informational documents would be included on the system.

Mrs. Noll asked that whatever information is placed on one Board member's computer be placed on all of them.

Mr. Shepperd spoke of the dangers of opening attachments to documents received from outside the County's system that could contain viruses and cause problems.

Mr. Cannon agreed, stating the same problems could occur by loading software on the computers that was not loaded by County staff.

By consensus the Board authorized the procurement of the laptops necessary for the Board members and other staff members as required for Board meetings.

Mr. Cannon noted it would take approximately 6-8 weeks to obtain the equipment and have the Board members trained.

CAPITAL ASSETS, PER CAPITA DEBT, AND DEBT CAPACITY. (Not on Agenda)

Mr. McReynolds reviewed a handout he provided the Board members concerning the County's capital assets, per capita debt, and debt capacity. He indicated the County had the lowest per capita debt in the region, and he explained that the County must conduct a referendum to use General Obligation Bonds for borrowing, except for school purposes.

Discussion followed concerning the information provided by Mr. McReynolds.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Board reviewed its current mission statement, and agreed that no changes were needed at this time.

The Board then reviewed its current goals, during which time discussion took place on the following issues:

Adequate training for County staff and provision for some type of career ladder for positions

Offering segments of the Citizens Institute as needed rather than the full program previously provided

Strive for diversity of the County workforce

Bypass Road revitalization—institute a program as was done for Route 17 to help beautify the area through undergrounding utilities and landscaping

Meeting Recessed. At 9:58 a.m. Chairman Burgett declared a short recess.

Meeting Reconvened. At 10:12 a.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Mr. McReynolds then reviewed potential areas of emphasis by the Board for Calendar Year 2005 including:

Continued Customer Service Improvement

Economic Development

Route 17 Corridor Improvements

Drainage Improvements

Entryway and Corridor Improvement and Beautification

Playing Field Development

Comprehensive Plan Update

Yorktown and Tourism

Utility Projects

Preparation for the 2006 and 2007 Celebrations

Transportation Improvements

Base Realignment and Closure and NASA

Discussion followed concerning the quality of buildings built for businesses in the County, the Regional Wayfinding System, future construction of playing fields, the 2006 and 2007 Celebrations, the State Inaugural in Williamsburg in 2006, progress on the widening of Route 17, and a second trolley for Yorktown.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ROUTE 17 REVITALIZATION

Mr. James Noel, Director of Economic Development, briefed the Board on the Route 17 Grant Program, stating applications were still being received. He reviewed a summary of grants approved and work accomplished to date. He indicated the program continues to be adjusted, and he reviewed the current grant program rules.

Discussion followed regarding tenants being able to apply for grants with the permission of the property owners. The Board also discussed the current Route 17 Revitalization Committee, and it was suggested that it was perhaps time to retire the citizen committee and replace it with a smaller committee of staff and business members.

Mr. Noel indicated he would put the suggestion for changing the Route 17 Revitalization Committee on the agenda for the next Economic Development Authority meeting.

Chairman Burgett questioned if the County had put enough funding into this program and whether or not the funding should be moved up to Bypass Road.

Mr. Noel stated the committee was about to meet again, and the applications before it, if approved, would wipe out the current funding.

Mr. McReynolds recommended that the Board look at the allocation for economic development for the coming year and possibly allocate some additional funding to the Route 17 program. He stated the Merrimac Trail corridor of the upper County would also benefit from the same type of program.

Mr. Zaremba noted that with respect to Bypass Road he would not spend a lot of money on landscaping until after the utilities go underground.

Chairman Burgett stated he would not want to allocate more funding until the current program was complete. He suggested the Board see the current program and the current funding through, and based on the results take another look in a year or two and possibly replenish the funding at that time. He agreed that nothing should be done on Bypass Road until the utilities were completed.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW STATUS REPORT

Mr. Carter reviewed the current status of the Comprehensive Plan review process.

Discussion followed on future plans for undeveloped properties in the County and on long-range transportation plans to include the added routes to the Williamsburg Area Transport Service.

Meeting Recessed. At 11:36 p.m. Chairman Burgett declared the meeting recessed for lunch.

Meeting Reconvened. At 12:12 p.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

YORKTOWN OPERATIONS

Mrs. Anne B. Smith, Director of Community Services, briefed the Board on the draft operations plan for Yorktown and the Riverwalk Landing project, and asked the Board members for answers on several decision points.

Discussion followed on day boaters and fees, and the Board agreed to the recommendation of charging \$5.00 for up to four hours, and \$1.75 per foot per 24 hours thereafter. The Board also authorized staff to advertise the requested Event Planner position.

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Mrs. Smith then reviewed the plans for the Grand Opening of the Riverwalk project, noting Saturday's attendance over the Memorial Day weekend might equal that of the Fourth of July. She asked the Board for its consensus on the draft invitation she had provided them.

By consensus the Board authorized the printing of the Riverwalk Grand Opening invitations as recommended by staff.

Discussion also ensued concerning participation expected for the Grand Opening, and it was noted that Governor Warner was expected to attend to participate in the commissioning of the Schooner Virginia.

Mr. McReynolds indicated that another topic for decision by the Board was the naming of the Cofferdam Pier, and he stated there was a proposal for it to be named after former Board of Supervisors member H. Tabb Smith who was instrumental in the cofferdam project in the early 1980s.

By consensus the Board agreed to think about naming the cofferdam pier and the recommendation to name it after Mr. Smith.

Meeting Adjourned. At 1:29 p.m. Chairman Burgett declared the meeting adjourned sine die.

James O. McReynolds, Clerk
York County Board of Supervisors

James S. Burgett, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors